

Economy being the order of the day, and brevity in report the beauty of the system, the agent for the Western Shore has little more to say, than that in pursuance of the several acts of assembly touching his duties, he devoted nearly the whole of the last year to the discharge thereof.— Experience convinced him of the propriety, of often appearing amongst those whom it became his duty to visit, and (with many honourable exceptions,) he had to encounter much of that morose and listless disposition in men which the great stress of the times seemed to have the better fitted them. He however pressed, as far as in the nature of things was practicable, the settlement of all balances and sums of money due the State anterior and subsequent to his appointment. It is with satisfaction he can say, that the current revenue over which he had more immediate supervision, (which forms no unimportant part,) little or no part of it remains unpaid, by reason of his certain and regular adjustment of the receivers' accounts, the advantages of which, were to them, no less a protection than to the great interest of the State, and without, the Treasury Department must have been thrown, in some measure, into confusion, and a recurrence of the same state of things, that happened between the years 1807--'22 & '26. See Agent's reports, page 109, Journal of the House of Delegates last session. He deems it unnecessary here, again to swell his report in calling the attention of the Legislature to the several laws and resolutions heretofore passed and referred to in his former reports, by dwelling on them at this time.

Herewith are transmitted two statements. No: 1, shews the particular items of revenue, the names of the clerks, the separate and aggregate amounts payable by them. No 2, in like manner shews the names, items of revenue, and amounts payable by the Sheriffs. It will be apparent that there has been an increase of the revenue from these sources within the last year of more than sixteen thousand dollars; and should the legislature in their wisdom, permit the system to remain undisturbed, as it now is, there can be no question of a still larger increase during the current year, ending November 1st, 1829. The chief sources of complaint, and causes of the fluctuation of the revenue derived from the above expedients, are attributable, more to the frequent changes, than the character of the system itself.

All which is respectfully submitted.

SINGLETON DU VALL,  
late Agent W. Shore, Md.